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LAVA, 854 INTERVALE

NEW YORK 39

Grace Kelly On Monaco Stamps?

The odds are fairly good that Grace Kelly, whose impending marriage to Monaco's ruler, Prince Ranier III, may become the first American actress to appear on foreign postage stamps.



Some of the royal couples appearing on stamps are shown. (Top) Egypt, ex-king Farouk and queen Nour-Eldin; (Center) Iran, Shah Mohammed Riza Pahlavi and his bride, Soraya Esfandiari; (Bottom) Jordan, King Hussein and Princess Dina Abdul Hamid, his wife.

This interesting possibility was noted by Jacques Minkus of Gimbels Stamp and Coin Department. It seems quite certain that Monaco will issue postage stamps to commemorate the royal wedding since the little Mediterranean principality is very stamp conscious.

The precedent has already been established by other European countries such as Liechtenstein, Luxembourg and Italy. Ex-king Farouk also signaled his marriage to Farida, and later to Nour-Eldin, by special postal issues. Miss Kelly might also be the sole subject on some later issues from Monaco, since this precedent was already established for former "Princesses Grace" of Monaco, Charlotte Grimaldi and Marie-Victoire.

Seals, Cachet For Houston Exhibition

A seal and cacheted envelope have been prepared by the Houston, Texas Philatelic Society for the group's 11th annual stamp exhibition. This will be staged at the Palmer Memorial Church, 6221 Main St., Houston, February 3 to 5. The seal costs 5c plus a stamped, addressed envelope for its return. The cacheted covers are 10c each. Send orders and payments to Mrs. J. C. Stipp, 1213 Jackson Blvd., Houston 6, Texas.

A highlight of the three day affair will be an auction on Saturday evening beginning at 8 p.m. Winners in the juniors section will have their collection entered in FIPEX in New York City.

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6	10.00	5.00	3.75	2.75
7	10.00	5.00	3.75	2.75
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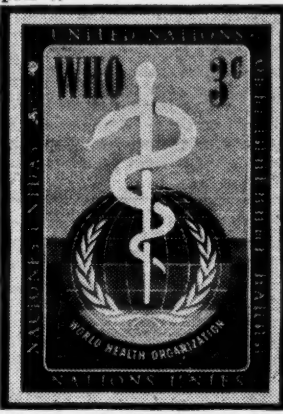
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Caduceus, Globe In U.N. Design

The UN Postal Administration has released a photograph of the second commemorative set design of 1956, to be issued on April 6 in honor of the World Health Organization. Although it was previously announced that the two stamps would be issued on April 9 the date has been changed, so that they may be on hand to celebrate World Health Day on April 7.



There will be 3c and 8c denominations, the 3c blue-green, the 8c ochre. The design is by Olav Mathiesen of Denmark, a member of the United Nations Graphic Presentation Unit. It depicts a globe, against which is shown the caduceus, symbol of the World Health Organization. Printing will be by Thomas de la Rue and Co. Ltd. of England. Further details regarding the

printing and particulars on how to obtain the stamps and first day service will be announced at the end of February. Until that time, no orders or inquiries should be sent to the UN Postal Administration.

Organize Hobby Club At Van Wert, Ohio

Just organized for various collectors of the Van Wert County area is the Van Wert, Ohio Hobbyists Club. This organization will have one meeting a month on the second Wednesday at the Marsh Hotel.

James Gamble is the first president. His official family is made up of vice president Richard Pollock; treasurer Denton Stetler; secretary Chalice M. Jerome, R. R. 4, Van Wert, Ohio.

Various programs on the different hobbies represented in the club are planned for the meetings.

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Also available are supplements for all foreign White Ace albums, too. You'll find them listed in the chart below.

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Rates are per column inch per insertion. Transient, 1 inch \$4.00; 2 inch \$7.50; 3 inch \$10.20; 4 inch \$12.00; 5 inch \$13.50; (Contract rates lower.)
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CLOSING DATE for new copy or change, Wednesday noon, for publication second Monday following.

LEWIS F. TURLEY
Advertising Manager

More On The Gripe Department

In our issue of December 24 we commented on an unsatisfactory transaction by a collector with a stamp dealer. At the time of comment we did not know the name of the dealer. We recognized the name of the collector as one of whom we considered reputable and of good standing.



GEORGE W. LINN

Perhaps this fact led us to some conclusions which have since turned out to be bad conclusions, for we have learned that the collector did not give us the real facts about the matter but misled us by misrepresenting some of them.
It so happens that the dealer recognized the transaction and knew about whom we were talking, although we did not know at the time.
It now seems that we should state some facts which we could not state before. We are going to name the dealer because the dealer is a highly reputable one and we feel that we should name him and let collectors know that there are many who can be depended on.
The dealer in question is The Homestead Stamp Company, Port Washington, New York. We learn from our files as well as from a letter from this company that they have been advertising in our columns ever since they started in business. We learn further from checking our records in our office in Sidney that we have never before had any complaint against this company for any cause whatever. The letter at hand concerning the editorial of December 24 is one of the most complimentary we have ever received from any dealer after a situation of this nature has come up. The company frankly states that they respect our opinion and that we can make further comment if we wish and that we need have no fear of loss of advertising patronage because of our comment. Such letters as this are unusual, for too often any dealer who is called for unethical practices of any nature, no matter how guilty, immediately cancels his advertising contract and gives bigger space to our competitors. This therefore gives an opportunity to compliment the Homestead Stamp Company for their honorable and fair dealing.

It appears that the collector had sent an extensive and very tough want list to the Homestead people. They spent a good bit of time in trying to fill it and did send stamps valued at over \$100. The total purchases were about \$15 from this entire lot and anyone who knows anything about handling stamps by want lists would know that such a purchase from a want list is so immaterial that the dealer would rather not bother with it at all. Filling want lists is a very expensive method of operation.

Further than this the collector led us to believe that he had paid very high prices for a couple of the stamps whereas we are shown records which indicate that the stamps were sold to the collector at less than half their catalog value.

Further than this the collector stated that he had marked lightly with pencil on the back of the stamps he kept, and it is over this pencil marking on the back of the returned stamps that the dispute arose. We are shown some of the collector's light pencil marking as the company has submitted to us the original approval card in which the stamps were sent. The collector also wrote all over the back of these cards and it is by no means light pencil marking, but quite heavy marking that is certainly beyond what anyone has any right to do with other people's property.

In concluding this matter we want to say now that we have not as yet named the collector concerned and we do not intend to do so. We regret that we were so naive as to accept his statements on this matter, but naturally we did believe he was telling us the true facts. We learn since that this was not the case and although we did not mention the

SUPPLEMENT FOR THE 1955 STAMPS

Those who have the Linn Unit System of Album pages for United States stamps are hereby assured that a supplement for the stamps issued in 1955 will be produced and available as soon as we can make the necessary arrangements with the printer. Watch the pages of this paper for the announcement they are on hand here. There will be enough for all our customers.

name of the dealer, we do feel that in justice to reputable stamp dealers and there are many of them, that we should name this dealer and actually compliment him on his business methods and at the same time recommend him as being a reputable firm with which to deal.

There is little use in trying to quote from letters from this dealer. It appears we were misled in the first place and we dislike being misled when someone is asking our help in straightening out a situation of this sort.

Perhaps the main part of this transaction revolves around the question of a stamp that was surcharged and which the collector claims was a fake overprint and which he marked on the back. It so happens that the dealer offered to refund for the stamp if returned to him in the same condition which it was received. The collector marked the stamp up on the back and that is therefore not a stamp in the condition in which it was received.

The dealer is certainly justified in his stand and of course the collector has some leg to stand on in his complaint, but the main thing about which we are concerned is that we were led into this controversy through misrepresentation on the part of the collector and we do not like that sort of business. Our opinion therefore is that the dealer concerned has presented a better case than has the collector.

These kind of things happen frequently. The main point about all such situations is that there must be a fair and honorable meeting ground for both the dealer and collector. One must have as much confidence and faith in the other as he expects the other to have in him. In this situation we are led to place our faith with the dealer.

Shrub Oak Snowed Under

In the unusual run of weather that has been prevalent since the first part of January and even earlier in the winter some unusual things have come to pass.

Our usual batch of Christmas cards came from all over the United States and even from abroad. We heaved a sigh of relief after the holidays were over and thought we could settle down to work, but things were not yet all settled for we finally got a card from Pat Herst up in Shrub Oak, New York. We had to think of Pat at that time because we know how far back in the woods he has been living. The card bore a cancellation of December 12 and got to us here in Howey on January 4. We wonder if Pat is dug out yet and if the mail service up in that area is running on time again.

SMILEATELICS . . . Bob Ricker



"Yeah, we're interested in buying this stamp store, Mack! Is it that the Fifth National Bank has its vaults right next to your basement?"

Juniors' Deadline For FIPEX April 1

According to word received from Jacques Minkus, chairman of the FIPEX Junior Exhibits Committee, the deadline for displays in this category is April 1, not the earlier date as specified for the Senior section.

This means that junior exhibits must be received in New York from the local clubs by that date.

Mr. Minkus also noted that two more major department stores are sponsoring local competitions for young stamp collectors in their areas. Rich's Stamp and Coin Department in Atlanta will be the focal point for the competitions there, while Joske's of Texas will handle the contests for the juniors in the San Antonio area.

UN Reprints 10c Definitive Again

When the 3c and 8c UN Human Rights Day stamps were issued December 9 last, a total of 298,038 first day covers were serviced by the UN Postal Administration.

The UNPA has announced a second reprinting of the 10c regular in a quantity of 100,000. This value was originally released on November 16, 1951 in a printing of one million copies. It was reprinted in 1954 to the tune of 100,000.

The second reprint differs from the first in that no control numbers appear on the sheet.

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ALREADY ISSUED

1038 — Woodrow Wilson 7c, Staunton, Va., January 10.

1073—Ben Franklin 3c, Philadelphia, Pa. January 17.

UNITED NATIONS

Feb. 17 — International Telecommunications Union, 3c and 8c. April 6—World Health Organization, 3c and 8c.

October 24 — United Nations Day, 3c and 8c.
December 10 — Human Rights Day, 3c and 8c.

To obtain First Day Covers collectors can send a reasonable quantity each with a name and address, and enclosing a stuffer to the Postmaster of the designated first day city with a request for FD Service. Payment must accompany to cover the face value of the stamps to be affixed. For UN and Canadian first days, watch the news stories on these and follow instructions.

Centennial March Of Dimes Slogans

Three centennial slogans, and one for the March of Dimes have been announced as available to collectors by the Post Office Department. These can be gotten on postal cards bearing a name and address or envelopes containing a stuffer, and having a 3c stamp and name and address.

Prepared cards or covers are then to be sent to the respective postmasters with a request that an impression of the slogan be applied.

Murrysville, Pa. will use its slogan for the March of Dimes until January 31.

Uvalde, Texas has a centennial slogan in use to May 13.

Niagara University, N. Y. publicizes the school's 100 years of existence. It will be used to December 31.

Monmouth, Ore. also notes 100

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228, 267	4000 ea.	696, 698	1500 ea.
264	700	700	600
279	1000	706	400
300	2000	803, 813	1500 ea.
301	1000	808	1500
319	4000	809	300
321 or 374	2000 ea.	810	5000
322 or 375	5000 ea.	813, 817	2000 ea.
405 or 428	1000 ea.	814	4000
501	700	816	700 ea.
504	400	818, 819	300 ea.
510	700	822, 823	300 ea.
529	1200	826	300
587, 600	1500 ea.	827	200
588	500	830, 831	1200 ea.
632	4000	839	4000
633	500	840	2000
635	1500	1036, 1038	1000
636	400	1039	1000
637, 638	4000 ea.	1033	5000
639, 640	800 ea.	1035	800
641	3000	1036	2000
642, 654	7000 ea.	1037	4000
653, 655	2000 ea.	1041	800
658	1500	1048	2000
662	500	1050	3000
693	900	1051	5000

COMMEMORATIVES, AIRPOST & MISC.

Scott No.	Minimum Quantity	Scott No.	Minimum Quantity	Scott No.	Minimum Quantity
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705	1500	3c Fam. Am.	500 ea.	1021, 1060	200 ea.
706	500	866 to 895	400 ea.		
707	400	899	4000	AIRMAILS & MISC.	
708	1000	900	6000	C7	200
709	600	902	200	C12	200
710, 711	400 ea.	903, 904	400 ea.	C16	200
718, 727	400 ea.	907, 908	2000 ea.	C17	200
728	800	922 to 926	300 ea.	C19, C23	1000 ea.
729	3000	928, 933	300 ea.	C25	2000
732	3500	930	700	C26, C33	1000 ea.
737	700	931, 935	400 ea.	C27	4000
740 to 742	400 ea.	939	700	C32	2000
772 to 777	500 ea.	934 to 936	700 ea.	C40, C45	200 ea.
782, 783	400 ea.	937, 940	1500 ea.	C47, C48	200 ea.
784	1500	938, 939	700 ea.	E15, E20	1500 ea.
785 to 787	600 ea.	941 to 947	700 ea.	E16, E17, E19	1000 ea.
790 to 792	600 ea.	948 to 957	700 ea.	J77	2000
795	500	958 to 963	500 ea.	J78	2000
798 to 802	500 ea.	964 to 967	400 ea.	J79, J86	1500 ea.
835	500	969 to 976	400 ea.	J80, J83	2000 ea.
838	300	981 to 1007	700 ea.	J81, J82, J84	4000 ea.
852, 858	800 ea.	977 to 980	400 ea.	J85	1000
1c Fam. Am.	400 ea.				

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BY CARL P. RUETH

Read this and remember?

On February 17 the United Nations will release a set of two commems for the International Telecommunication Union. The design of both will be identical with one exception—and that's were the trouble is apt to occur.

The 3c will have the initials of the organization adapted from the English language as ITU. However, on the 8c the initials will be from the French and inscribed UTI. Just remember that is the way it is supposed to be and there has been no mistake and it is not a rarity.

A similar reversal of the initials occurred for the International Civil Aviation Organization last year when the 3c was ICAO, and the 8c OACI. I received scads of letters from hopefuls who were quite certain they had a rare error in the OACI 8-center.

So please, on this ITU-UTI deal keep your pulse and avidity under control.

1. Most stamps are inscribed "U. S. Postage". There has been one in the last five years with "Postage U.S.A.". Know which?
2. Another in this same span of years has just "Postage". Can you name it?

Harry A. Gordon, about whom there was an item in the January 16 U. S. Notes, comes with a letter in which great pain is expressed. My informant stated that Mr. Gordon lived in Brooklyn at bit of misinformation which has rocked Mr. G. to his very boot-tops.

He would like to have the world know that he lives in the Bronx, and is a rooter of the Yankee baseball team, and only expects to repose in Brooklyn perhaps at the time of his death because there are so many marble roachards (cemetaries to you) there.

Guy Stoms of Naranja, Fla. visited his optometrist the other day where he learned that Benjamin Franklin, for whom there was a commem January 17, originated his own personal bi-focal glasses.

According to the story, Franklin asked the maker of his glasses to cut his general use lens in half and mount them in the upper part of the frame, and the halves of the reading ones in the lower part.

Those of you who want to do something different this year for Valentines Day, February 14, are offered the facilities of the Loveland, Colo. post office. This town of 9000, which serves as a gateway for visitors to Rocky Mountain National Park, appropriately enough has as one of its chief products the making of sugar.

You can send your letters or valentines, each bearing a 3c stamp, and addressed to whom it is to go, in a bundle, care of the Postmaster, Loveland, Colo. If you have no special cancellation date in mind, these will be postmarked February 9 or 10, and placed in the mails so the recipients get theirs by February 14.

Again this year a cachet will be applied without cost. It shows Loveland's cowboy cupid, the Rockies, Loveland's "Heart L" brand and a bit of verse reading—

Loveland's Cowboy Cupid,
Throws his loop high, wide and handsome.
With this Valentine to keep it tight,
He'll hold your heart for ransom.

A reader asks why our POD has issued no more two-colored stamps inasmuch as the Red Cross of 1952, and the 8c of the Liberty series

were welcomed with so much pleasure.

I believe in time we will get quite a few bi-color designs. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing for months past has been in the process of acquiring and installing new presses which are capable of producing stamps in more than one color.

Now and again someone writes that he was surprised to find commems of the past five years or so on sale in his local post office.

This is not an unusual thing even though such stamps have been off the philatelic agency list for many months. Every now and again Washington sends a memo to postmasters to return back issues for credit. These are then not destroyed, but repacked and sent out to post offices around the nation for sale.

There is no special pattern of distribution for such material — it is just placed as the opportunity offers.

Talking about obsolete issues, just the other day I was approached by a man who had ten panes of each commem from the 1945 Al Smith to date. They had a face value of about \$600.

He wanted to liquidate them and up to that time had not been able to get face value. Best offer was 4% below face by the brokers who handle lots of this kind. He had faithfully accumulated this holding, issue by issue, in the hope he would be able to realize a profit some day.

However, he was another one of those people who would not believe that investing in panes of U. S. commems was a money-losing dream.

Live and learn.

Here's that 8th Annual Design Derby ballot again. How about being a very cooperative sport and reader and getting yours marked and sent in to me.

8TH ANNUAL DESIGN DERBY

1st 2nd 3rd

Art Academy

Colleges

Rotary

Armed Forces

Stone Face

Soo Locks

Peace Atoms

Ticonderoga

Mellon

Cert. Mail

Franklin 1/2c

Roosevelt 6c

Lee 30c

Marshall 40c

Anthony 50c

Henry \$1

Worst Design

Least Necessary

Would you like sets

How Often

How Large

Denominations

Send this to Carl P. Rueth, Linns

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to register your thoughts about U.S.

stamps so why not take advantage

of it?

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OF NEW YORK

17 OFFICES

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1. The New York City 300th Anniversary of Founding of 1953.
2. The National Guard of 1953.

Chicago Dealer
Will Move To Florida

Walter N. Emerson has resigned as president of the American Stamp Dealers' Assn. chapter in Chicago. He will move to Florida.

Merrill Kirkland, veteran Chicago dealer, was elected to succeed Emerson as president and to proceed with plans for the forthcoming stamp show at the LaSalle Hotel March 2-4.

Emerson will become associated with Donald A. Howe, wholesale stamp dealer of Lakeland, Fla. and will take up his duties on March 1.

Emerson was previously secretary of the Chicago A.S.D.A. for six years and was twice president of the Chicago Philatelic Society, serving in 1929-31 and in 1954 when C.P.S. was host to the Society of Philatelic Americans.

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For the electrification of the Valenciennes-Thionville railroad line, France issued a stamp which pictured an electric locomotive.

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1005	3c	4H Club	20	19	.05
1006	3c	B&O RR	20	19	.05
1007	3c	A. A. A.	20	19	.05
1008	3c	Nato	20	19	.05
1009	3c	Gr. Coulee	20	19	.05
1010	3c	LaFayette	20	19	.05
1011	3c	Rushmore	20	19	.05
1012	3c	Engineers	20	19	.05
1013	3c	Serv. Women	20	19	.05
1014	3c	Gutenberg	20	19	.05
1015	3c	News Boys	20	19	.05
1016	3c	Red Cross	20	19	.05
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Naples, Padua And Trieste International Fairs, Venice Art Exhibition Get Stamps

Bert Happ

(Continued From Last Week)

Naples Overseas Fair and World Italian Labor

This show was opened in the Exhibition Grounds at Naples on June 7, 1952 by the President of the Italian Republic, a mercantile and industrial display.

Following the same theme, a topical collection of stamps of non-Italian countries showing the work of Italians throughout the world on the continents of Asia, Africa, Europe, North and South America, was on exhibition in the salon of one of the buildings.

For Europe the works of Romans appearing on Romanian and Portuguese stamps, and the sculptural, artistic and architectural works of Italians appearing on stamps of Austria, Bulgaria, Portugal, Czechoslovakia, England, Poland, Hungary, Saar and Soviet Russia formed one section.

The Asiatic section contained stamps showing Roman remains, as well as the work of Italians which appear on Siamese and Turkish stamps.

Africa included stamps with views of places with Latin names, as well as works of Italians on Egyptian and Algerian stamps, while the work of Italians on the Matadi-Leopoldville railroad was recalled.

Stamps of North and South America recalled Columbus and Cabot, and the works of Italians on both continents. Attention was given to the work of those of Italian descent in the new world.

A display of the work of Francesco Tasso in starting the first international postal service as well as the establishment by Morocco of the mail service between Magazan and Marrakesch in Morocco received attention. This unique collection included stamps of Japan, Siam and Ecuador and Argentina, designed by Italians. (Scott No. 148)

The XXVI Biennial Art Exhibit at Venice.

The Four Evangelists, or writers of the Gospels, St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke and St. John, are represented symbolically in art by a man or angel, a winged lion, a winged ox and an eagle in that order. St. Mark is represented by a winged Lion. In the piazza of San Marco in Venice two granite columns stand between the Doge's Palace and the Library. On one is the Winged Lion, symbol of St. Mark, the Patron Saint of Venice. The lion stands with one forepaw on the opened book of the Gospel of St. Mark.

On the other column is a statue of St. Theodore, old Patron Saint of the Venetian Republic, holding a sword and shield, with his foot on a crocodile. Centuries ago a scaffold used to be erected between these two columns for the execution of criminals. (Scott No. 149).

XXX Fair of Padua.

The fairs of Italy began during the Middle Ages when on great feasts of the Church in the spring and fall agricultural produce was offered for sale. With the advent of the Industrial Revolution manufactured products appeared at the fairs. Because these fairs became so important in Italian economy they came under government control in 1932 under Mussolini. A decree of 1934 still in effect makes it necessary for the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to authorize each Fair on each occasion.

In early times the main fairs seemed to be centered in Venice, Pavia, Bologna, Parma, Sinigaglia, Merano and Bolzano, but by 1938 there were but five fairs of international importance: Verona, Milan, Bari, Padua and Tripoli. Milan and Tripoli received great publicity on Italian stamps. Bari had its first stamp in 1949, while Padua had to wait until 1952 and

its thirtieth fair to receive philatelic mention. With the return of Trieste to Italy another International fair was added to the list, publicized on Italian stamps in 1952, but already philatelically noted in Trieste from 1950 on.

The Church of St. Anthony of Padua which appears on the stamp was begun immediately after the death of St. Anthony, who died in Padua. It was built after a design by Niccolò da Pisa and finished in 1307, 280 feet long and 188 feet wide. Externally it looks like a mosque with its oriental domes and minarets. The body of St. Anthony lies in a chapel under the main altar.

St. Anthony was born in Lisbon, Portugal in 1198. Once a Dominican priest, he received permission to join the new mendicant order of St. Francis of Assisi. Journeying to Africa and thence to Italy, he spent his life preaching in Italy. So effective was he that he converted multitudes from sin and heresy, reconciled the bitterest enemies. The stamps of Italy of 1930 commemorating the 7th century of his death give scenes from his life from Portugal to Padua, and Portugal gives him a philatelic salute in 1931. Many stories are told of his miracles, some authentic, some legendary. He is a great favorite with Italians. (Scott No. 150).

The International Fair at Trieste

This event was publicized on stamps of Trieste in 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954 for the 2nd to the 6th running of the Fair. The 1952 stamp was printed for use in Italy and overprinted for use in Trieste. The other stamps were ordinary or commemorative postage with the notice of the Fair overprinted on the stamps.

The 1952 stamp shows the Cathedral of San Giusto at Trieste and the harbor. Although pictured on the waterfront, the Cathedral is on an eminence in the old part of the city, built over the ruins of a Roman temple, part of whose foundation and columns are still visible by the tower. It was made into its present form in the 14th century by the union of three sixth century buildings: an early Christian basilica, a small byzantine church with a dome and baptistry. St. Just or San Giusto is the

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P.S. "Hugo" sold us his collection two weeks ago and is now honeymooning on the proceeds.

patron of the city.

Since the pictures on the other stamps are described elsewhere, we point only to the symbol of Trieste overprinted on the 1953 stamp, a stylized halberd. This is a detail from a 14th century seal of Trieste which appears in full on the stamps of Italy commemorating the Annexation of Trieste. On the seal is one of the gates of the city with three towers. Between the towers are two halberds with pennon. In the modern version the pennon is removed. (Scott No. 151).

(To be Continued)

Franklin Banquet, Officer Installation

To honor the man for whom their club was named, the Franklin Stamp Club of Greenfield, Mass., held a banquet January 17 on the 25th anniversary of Benjamin Franklin's birth.

It was also the time when the group installed their new officers and paid tribute to outgoing president Joseph A. Bellefeuille. Members attended with their wives.

Officers now are president Charles Shebell; vice president H. Eugene Mason; treasurer Murray Wartel; secretary Guy Aldrich.

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C41	08	08	C10	05	C50	06
C42	09	09	C11	06	C51	07
C43	10	10	C12	07	C52	08
C44	11	11	C13	08	C53	09
C45	12	12	C14	09	C54	10
C46	13	13	C15	10	C55	11
C47	14	14	C16	11	C56	12
C48	15	15	C17	12	C57	13
C49	16	16	C18	13	C58	14
C50	17	17	C19	14	C59	15
C51	18	18	C20	15	C60	16
C52	19	19	C21	16	C61	17
C53	20	20	C22	17	C62	18
C54	21	21	C23	18	C63	19
C55	22	22	C24	19	C64	20
C56	23	23	C25	20	C65	21
C57	24	24	C26	21	C66	22
C58	25	25	C27	22	C67	23
C59	26	26	C28	23	C68	24
C60	27	27	C29	24	C69	25
C61	28	28	C30	25	C70	26
C62	29	29	C31	26	C71	27
C63	30	30	C32	27	C72	28
C64	31	31	C33	28	C73	29
C65	32	32	C34	29	C74	30
C66	33	33	C35	30	C75	31
C67	34	34	C36	31	C76	32
C68	35	35	C37	32	C77	33
C69	36	36	C38	33	C78	34
C70	37	37	C39	34	C79	35
C71	38	38	C40	35	C80	36
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C76	43	43	C45	40	C85	41
C77	44	44	C46	41	C86	42
C78	45	45	C47	42	C87	43
C79	46	46	C48	43	C88	44
C80	47	47	C49	44	C89	45
C81	48	48	C50	45	C90	46
C82	49	49	C51	46	C91	47
C83	50	50	C52	47	C92	48
C84	51	51	C53	48	C93	49
C85	52	52	C54	49	C94	50
C86	53	53	C55	50	C95	51
C87	54	54	C56	51	C96	52
C88	55	55	C57	52	C97	53
C89	56	56	C58	53	C98	54
C90	57	57	C59	54	C99	55
C91	58	58	C60	55	C100	56
C92	59	59	C61	56		
C93	60	60	C62	57		
C94	61	61	C63	58		
C95	62	62	C64	59		
C96	63	63	C65	60		
C97	64	64	C66	61		
C98	65	65	C67	62		
C99	66	66	C68	63		
C100	67	67	C69	64		

FLORAL STAMP CO.
Box 35 Floral Park, L.I. N. Y.

Denmark

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All New Issues listed on our free weekly cards for the asking. Also our complete Standing Order Service for lower prices details on request.

JUST OUT—Price list 56-1 listing the world's stamps issued during 1955.

McDONNELL COMPANY

301 New York Bldg - St. Paul, 1, Minn.

Luxembourg's
Balloon Post Of 1927

James Taylor Dunn

For several days I have been reading a very interesting book, *La Poste par Ballons Montés, 1870-1871* by J. Le Pileur of the French Philatelic Academy. It takes me back to 1927 when we in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg were present at a similar balloon ascension which happily took place under peaceful conditions. We did not have to go through the agony which forced France to use aerial transportation so that their enemy-encircled capitol might have contact with the outside world.

Twenty-seven years have passed since that picturesque event so unique in the air post history of the Grand Duchy.

The international postage stamp exhibit of 1927, organized by the Union of Luxembourg Philatelists (U.T.L.) in Luxembourg City's Municipal Palace (better known as the Cercle) was about to wind up its sessions. Wanting a dignified and original finale, the president of the U.T.L. Bernard Wolff had the happy idea of contacting the great daily newspaper of Brussels, *Le Soir*, to organize a balloon post in combination with a great balloon rally on the afternoon of September 8. Specially designed cards, also Mr. Wolff's idea, were placed on sale at the exhibition. They alone could be carried by the balloon, all other correspondence being excluded.

It was arranged that when the balloon landed, the mail was to be dispatched to the nearest post office so that a postmark could be applied to the cards before sending them on to their destinations.

The special cards had to be at the exposition's post office in the Cercle before it closed at noon on September 8. Here the stamps were cancelled with a special rectangular postmark which read:

PAR BALLON
 EXP. PHIL. LUXEMBOURG
 8 Sept. 1927

Following this cancellation, the cards were placed in a postal bag and carried to nearby Limpertsberg and the large open square which is today occupied by the great Exhibition Halls. (Those same Halls where the 1952 CENTILUX was held). There the directors of the commercial fair of 1927 had built wooden halls, including the vast Great Industrial Palace. It was on the open square directly in front of this building that the *Soir* balloon was inflated.

Three hundred feet away, however, the Schobermesse (annual autumn fair) was going at full force and using up a great amount of gas. Therefore the pressure was quite low and it took considerable time to inflate the balloon. Many laughed and said we could not succeed — that the whole thing would be a flop. But the crowd refused to give up. Finally, at about four o'clock in the afternoon, the spectators seemed to become alert. There was a steady flow of traffic between the fair and the balloon.

All this time, however, hundreds of the more curious had stuck to their places, attentively watching the half-inflated ball which now rapidly grew bigger. The balloon finally lifted itself from the ground. "It's going to fly off!" people shouted. Held back by numerous ropes attached to bags of sand, the colossus hung motionless between sky and earth. The ropes did not give way.

The basket was hurriedly attached, the operator took charge, the baggage and ballast were thrown in, two men mounted — the crowd of spectators increased to thousands. No one, in the feverish expectancy of what was going to happen, dared say a word. It was five o'clock.

Suddenly there was a shout "Let her go!" The ropes were loosened and the balloon proudly threw itself into the air, accompanied by astonished cheers. It rose higher and higher, heading east.

While spectators watched with lively curiosity, many waiting bicyclists peddled off at full speed. Motorcycles and automobiles too, joined in on the race to catch up with the balloon. The grey ball disappeared into the blue sky and the crowd once again returned to the fair.

While the fair continued to amuse most of the people, there was an eager chase taking place on the highway which led toward the east. The goal, of course, was to bring back the prizes for those who would first reach the balloon's landing place. Its course seemed to slow down; it began to descend... yes, it was really coming down to earth. The more daring of the pursuers jumped off their bikes, lifted them high on their shoulders and ran across the fields; others hid their bicycles in the bushes and footed it breathlessly in pursuit. The balloon descended majestically and, without either snag or tear, it touched the ground. The first runners were soon at hand to offer their services.

They were nine miles from the

village of Roodt-on-the-Syr and the time was 8 o'clock in the evening. The mail was carried by these men to the post office at Roodt where the postmark "Roodt, 8-9-27/8-9 S" was applied to the cards before sending them off to their destinations.

Thus one of the pleasantest episodes of Luxembourg's air post history ended.

As a spectacle, this balloon idea was certainly a great success. But the same cannot be said of the philatelic results. The field of Luxembourg's airmail collecting was still in its infancy and those philatelists who bought these cards did so more to have a souvenir of this singular event than especially to enrich their collections. That explains why there were only about 500 of the cards mailed. Nowadays the collecting of airmail stamps and postmarks is considerably more widespread and philatelists are eagerly searching out all the early documents. They are becoming more and more rare and very soon will certainly be highly coveted items. These Roodt cards should figure at least in second place (after the cards of Mondorf-Bains, see *Airpost Journal*, vol. 25, No. 2, November 1953) in every collection of Luxembourg Aero-philately which seeks to be complete.

(This article was first published in the now defunct stamp journal, *Le Luxembourg Philatelic*, vol. 3, no. 4, April 1947. Altogether unsigned, it is presumed to have been written by Jean-Pierre Heischbour. This first English translation has been made by a member of the Luxembourg Philatelic Study Club about which interested persons may obtain information by writing to Warren W. Sadler, #3222 Kensington Ave., Richmond, Va.)

Dealer ★
★ Doings

A lot of collectors wanted the fine United States material advertised by Hy Bedrin, 116 Nassau St., New York 38, N. Y. in his year end sale in the November 14 edition. Closing date was January 15. Many have asked for an extension of the deadline due to being caught financially short from the holidays. Mr. Bedrin has extended the date to March 15.

Alvin Coleman, 2264 Creston Ave., New York 53, N. Y. has a free list of mint complete sets of the stamps of Cuba. It is one of a series he plans to produce monthly and which will be sent to names which appear on his customer lists. To come are offerings of Liberia, Congo, Belgian East Africa, Israel, Vatican, Saar, Germany and Poland.

Free of charge is List 56-A "Used British America, Complete" by Alex A. Jason, 911 Tenth St. N.W., Grand Rapids 4, Mich. He deals exclusively in used British King George VI and Queen Elizabeth issues. He also has the 1956 Commonwealth King George VI Catalog at \$1.25, and the Commonwealth Queen Elizabeth Catalog at \$1, both sent postpaid.

A move to another Pennsylvania community has been made by E. S. Myers who can now be reached through P. O. Box 311, Harrisburg, Pa. Mr. Myers has a comprehensive stock of the popular souvenir and miniature sheet specialty with material from all over the world. He has a free list of such offerings. An ad this edition lists some of his items.

Back home from an extended vacation which took the family to Florida, Washington, D.C., Chicago, and Texas is Joseph V. Bush, 143 Garrett Ave., Chula Vista, Calif. He promises overtime working on the accumulated mail and the answering of letters. Sendings of the AMG items in which the firm specializes will begin at once and go on apace.

In 1956 at various times temporary post offices will be established at Scout camps in Sweden. Covers

with the special cancels can be gotten from Martin Bostrom, Hertig Karlsalle 59B, Orebro, Sweden at 15c each. Mr. Bostrom also services first day covers of Sweden, and other special events there. Inquiries must contain 10c in U. S. postage.

Beginning with this edition in the Classified Section under "Plate Blocks", The Stamp-Ade Co., 904 Carnegie Hall, Cleveland, Ohio, will have some very interesting ads for the next twelve weeks. The firm was the first to complete the full 248 blocks of the 8c bi-color Liberty. They offer exchange with collectors for plates of this issue.

The unusual? Charles J. Molnar, 1246 Summit Dr. Cleveland 24, Ohio has it in an Illustrated Price List of Allied Propaganda Leaflets of World War II. There are some 800 different items in eleven different languages. It can be had for \$1 which is deductible from the first \$5 order. This is a fine guide for the leaflets dropped by air on the enemy.

Gertner, P. O. Box 13, Sta. W. Brooklyn 11, N. Y. is currently offering semipostal issues in mint condition of two very popular countries — Belgium and Switzerland. The Gertner stock also includes Russia used, Holland mint and used, Turkey, Saar, Vatican, Switzerland in mint sets. Orders are filled in 24 hours; satisfaction guaranteed.

A 1956 Price List of the stamps of the United States, United Nations, Confederate States of America, U. S. Possessions, Canada and Newfoundland can be gotten from Howard R. Tanger, 3607 W. 113th St., Inglewood 2, Calif. for 25c which sum is deductible on the first order. Minor varieties as listed in the Scott Specialized are featured.

France-Colonies Group
Exhibition February 7

The Fifth Annual Lesgor Contest of the France and Colonies Group is to be held at the Collectors Club, 22 E. 35th St., New York City February 7. Visitors are cordially invited to attend.

Entries in the exhibition are limited to three classes — Original Research — Open Class — One Subject, such as one stamp, one issue, etc. All must be confined to France and its Colonies and Possessions. There will be suitable prizes for the winning displays.

FREE!



We want you on our mailing list. Name this one! The world's most talked-of stamp, Francisco de Sosa's painting of the Duchess of Alba—better known as "THE NUDE DUCHESS." Remember, the stamp is entirely FREE. When mailed, either of our special offers will be included for your inspection. Send for yours now. Only one to each new customer. T. K. Barker, P. O. Box 4261, San Francisco, Calif.

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BRITISH EMPIRE REVIEW

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The first stops on our alphabetical global tour of the British Colonies were: Aden in southern Arabia, Aitutaki in Oceania and Antigua in the Caribbean. Our next stop, the island of ASCENSION, is hard to place geographically because it is so very far away from all continents. It is generally classified with the African continent, but is 1500 miles from the Gold Coast and 2000 directly west of Angola.

Its distance from the eastern-most point of Brazil is 1500 miles also, and if there was ever an island "in the middle of nowhere" Ascension fits this description perfectly.

A barren volcanic rock of 34 square miles, measuring seven miles by five, Ascension juts out of the South Atlantic Ocean which does its best to make the island inhospitable by frequent giant tidal waves.

ASCENSION is one of the "dependencies" of St. Helena, the others being Tristan da Cunha, Nightingale, Inaccessible and Gough Islands, the last three uninhabitable. It owes its name to a Portuguese navigator who stumbled upon it on Ascension Day, early in the 16th century.

The British took possession of the island in 1815 when a naval garrison was placed on Ascension after Napoleon had been brought to St. Helena as his place of detention and eventual death.

Ascension remained under the British Admiralty until 1922 when it came under the control of the Colonial Office. It is administered from St. Helena, 700 miles to the northwest.

For all practical purposes, ASCENSION today is the private domain of a commercial corporation, Cable and Wireless, Ltd. In fact, the head of the island and acting magistrate is the company's resident manager! It requires his personal permission for any outsider to set foot on the lava soil of Ascension.

The population consists of about 175 souls, give or take a dozen. Of these, about 50 are Englishmen, their wives and children; the rest are St. Helena employees with their families. The latter are of mixed origin, being descended from settlers from Great Britain under the old East India Company and employees and slaves introduced from Africa and Asia.

Incidentally, the "Postmistress" is the wife of one of the British company officers, appointed to the post by the St. Helena Governor. Law and order is enforced by a police force of two St. Helena constables and it is highly unlikely that these find their work overtaxing.

It is fairly safe to assume that Ascension would be uninhabited if it were not for the operations of the cable company. All water has to be distilled from the sea and much of the food stuffs have to be brought in from outside. Nevertheless, the company maintains an active and profitable farm on Green Mountain (see Scott types A10 and A12), the highest peak on Ascension, elevation 2870 feet.

Besides the livestock on the company farm, there are some wild donkeys, rabbits, wild cats, a few goats and a few partridges.

Sea-bird life is very plentiful; in particular, Ascension is famed for the vast numbers of "Wide-awake" or "Hack-backed" terns which breed there (see Scott type A9). Turtles abound at certain seasons and the waters around the island teem with fish—sharks, barracudas, tunas, bonitos and a local small one called "black fish".

Georgetown is the capital and only major settlement. The currency, in common with St. Helena, is British sterling. The island is strewn with mementos of Ascension's brief days of glory. Unimportant as the island may seem today, it was an absolutely vital strategic key spot during World War II. During that period, the island was virtually under U. S. Military occupation.

U. S. Army engineers built a

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large airfield and refueling station in record time for the Air Transport Command. It had a runway of 7000 feet and served as a stop-over point on flights between Natal and Accra. It is not likely that Ascension will ever fulfill this important role again since our modern aircraft hop from continent to continent without need of refueling.

Philatelically, Ascension offers an attractive field with an excellent investment potential. Before 1922, regular stamps of Great Britain, cancelled either with a circular date stamp or an oval registration postmark were in exclusive use. Dates as early as the 1860's have been found and such stamps with clear "Ascension" strike are naturally far more valuable than ordinary British stamps.

Covers earlier than 1880 are genuine philatelic museum pieces. As contact with the outer world increased, the island's postmark on British stamps became more common, although by no means plentiful. The most commonly found items are Great Britain Scott Nos. 127, 128, 159 and 160 which sell in London for about a dollar each.

Nearly all other Ascension postmarks from 1881 onwards fetch anywhere from \$2 to \$10 per stamp, covers always selling for a fat premium. Obviously, covers bearing evidence of commercial or private use are far more intriguing to the collector than those of a strictly philatelic nature.

ASCENSION'S stamp issues can be divided into four principal sets plus the usual Silver Jubilee, Coronation, Peace, Silver Wedding and UPU. The first of these four major sets was placed on sale on November 2, 1922 and consists of the then-current King George V set of St. Helena overprinted "ASCENSION" in black or red. As the basic issues only went up to 3/-, it was deemed sufficient to limit Ascension's denominations to that value also.

By 1924, these provisionals were replaced by the first regular King George V series, again up to 3/-, but with 4d, 5d and 6d values added which had not been included previously. Surprisingly, the 6d is the set's best value and sells for close to, or full, Scott, mint or used, that is, if you are lucky enough to locate a copy!

Gibbons also notes Scott #11 with the frame in bright blue green and prices it at \$2.10 mint and \$2.80 used, quite a difference in value from the usual deep green.

In 1934, as in so many other colonies, the new policy of highly attractive pictorial stamps was put into practice. The second KGVI regular issue, placed on sale on July 2, gave collectors their first glimpse of what the island of Ascension actually looks like and was very popular from the start.

Ascension's KGVI Silver Jubilee set is the second-best of all the colonies, only that of Mauritius being more expensive. Its 1/- top value is a very sound item. The fourth and still current set, the KGVI pictorial issue which was first placed on sale on May 12, 1938, is about to be replaced by a new Queen Elizabeth set. (The designs were described in our December 26 column). Therefore this might be

a good time to check your collection.

Scott, in a foot note, provides the tantalizing bit of information that "Perf 13 1/2 specimens of Nos. 40 to 49 command considerably higher prices", but this will hardly satisfy the collector who is actively interested in this field and is thus forced to look elsewhere for adequate information.

The British "Commonwealth" catalogue has solved this problem in the most logical way by simply breaking up the Ascension KGVI issue into three distinct sets: Perf 13 1/2, Perf 13 and, since 1949, Perf 14.

The new "Minkus" catalogue provides more information than Scott, but for our money the "Commonwealth" does the most concise job. The widest price gap is found on Scott #41A which is worth more than ten times as much with perforation 13 1/2 than the perforation 13.

Judging from the advance information, the forthcoming QEII set will be even more attractive than the preceding issues and will thus serve to increase Ascension's great popularity with stamp collectors everywhere: It is expected that the new set will also be on sale at St. Helena for the convenience of tourists and travellers, as the KGVI issue is, although it is valid for postage only on Ascension, of course.

See you next week!

Topical Chapter For Nashville, Tenn. Area

The American Topical Assn. is completing plans to form a branch chapter in Nashville, Tenn. It is for all collectors in that area interested in topical stamp collecting. All interested persons in the Nashville area can contact Roger Ortmyer, Route 1, Brentwood, Tenn., for further details.

Since collectors in other areas may wish to form branch chapters in their respective communities, they may write to Harvey Johnson, 111 Prospect St., Elmhurst, Ill., for branch chapter information. Those wishing information on membership in the American Topical Assn. can write Allyn H.

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of about 300,000 members, or one
third of a million of the 2,400 mil-
lion human beings on our planet.
These third of a million Luxem-
bourgians express as one their
strong hold on the land to which
they belong. Through stamps are
pictured two of the 130 feudal
castles widely distributed through-
out the rugged grandeur of the
Ardennes towering, wooded slopes.

Ancient Luxembourg City, formerly
a much fought over fortress,
was built upon overshadowing
Rocks 963 A.D. and appears on
stamps depicting various aspects
of her ramparts and magnificently
bridged valleys. The old bastion
is now concealed by flowers and
moss hides the ravaged face of
force, fear and suspicion.

Wars over Luxembourg were not
fought for the scant resources of
the soil it stands on, but rather
from fear that a rival should gain
possession of its favorable situa-
tion. The dismantled fortifications
are used now to attract tourists.
The Luxembourg's vitality has
preserved the sovereign and inde-
pendent life of an ancient state
through so many centuries of shock
and change.

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Luxembourg's postal history, the
fundamentally deep religious con-
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ple and the land are one. The wel-
come feeling of finding quiet
strength and unity in religious wor-
ship are shown through stamps
representing the Notre-Dame cathed-
ral, three and a half centuries
old; the votive altar, symbol of
offerings and the unflinching faith
in the city's patron Saint, the "Con-
solatrix Afflictorum" for pilgrims
and sufferers. The stamp of the
statue of the Virgin Mary shows
her wearing a robe woven and
worked by the hands of Maria-
Theresa, empress of Austria and
ruler of Luxembourg; in itself this
gives an example of artistic endea-
vor and strong devotion.

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every corner and a story beneath
every stone, folklore has also found
its way to Luxembourg's stamps.
Generations of listeners in farms,
castles, priories and convents have
handed the timeless legends and
their morals on from everywhere
for everyone. Luxembourg's folk-
lore tells of the country's customs,
of its people's childhood, the hu-
mor, the imagination—character
traits which are etched on every
inch of the stamps issued.

A born raconteur, the Luxem-
bourger is no saint, his views on
politics and mankind are edged
with cynicism, an inevitable result
of centuries of foreign encroach-
ment. Stamps have been printed
to commemorate the liberation
from Nazi occupation. Issues of
stamps have honored Luxembourg's
youth, soldiers and the under-
ground, the deported, the political
prisoners and the murdered.

Through Luxembourg's postage,
thanks went to America, to France,
to Britain and to Russia, for the
opening of the Freedom Road. Gen-
eral Patton, Luxembourg's liberator
during the Rundstedt offensive,
is commemorated along with the
Hamm cemetery stamp where Pat-
ton lies in Luxembourg soil among
many of his soldiers. Thus cour-
age has with grateful respect been
honored through philatelic contri-
butions.

Luxembourg is a truly democratic
nation and class prejudice is
practically non-existent. Cabinet
ministers, farmers, bank clerks,

garage mechanics, all drink and
talk at the round-table of the local
cafes. Their country is too small
to play the "grand manner."

Luxembourg's Intellectual Series
honoring the muse of knowledge, to
the profit of the international in-
tellectuals, speaks a language of
its own. Depicted are teaching,
art, journalism, engineering, sci-
ence, law, office-work and surgery.
Luxembourg can be justly proud of
its highly developed educational
system. Since most Luxembourg-
ers learn and speak, besides their
own language, French, German
and a good many, English, they
are able to choose among the nei-
ghoring countries to finish their
higher education. Before starting
practice in Luxembourg, however,
a state examination is obligatory.

Two of Luxembourg's most venerated
sons have appeared on
stamps. "Dicks" (Edmond de la
Fontaine) was a poet in the land's
own Luxembourg language—a lan-
guage older than French, the coun-
try's diplomatic language, or Ger-
man which it resembles only super-
ficially.

Michel Lentz the author of Lux-
embourg's national anthem, and
several composers have been hon-
ored on stamps. Landscape-artist
painter J. B. Fresez also has a
stamp to his name. The Luxem-
bourger, a lover of nature and free-
dom, romantic by instinct rather
than by conscious inclination, car-
ries the earthy artistic vein in his
blood.

A series of special stamps have
been issued to bring support to the
distressed, its national orphans,
war-victims and wards of the state.
One drawing shows a little girl's
haggard looks, yet with a slight
tinge of new hope. Another draw-
ing, a tormented little boy seeking
refuge in his mother's arms.

The Luxembourg's intelligence
induces him to reflect, to combine,
to preserve; the obscure does not
frighten him. As strong as his in-
dividuality, in fact the companion
to it, is his taste for work and work
well done; this in turn helps to se-
cure the individual. He is a hard
worker too, though without signs
of urgency and bustle. His is al-
most a unique attitude toward time.
A visit may last two minutes or
two hours, according to the mo-
mentary inclination. He is master
of his time, instead of time master-
ing him.

The southern industrial belt has
been the subject for three stamps.
This steel center produced before
the war one fifth of the world's
steel. Here is the land of black-
ened blast furnaces and huge piles
of slag, at the foot of which cows
graze deep in luxuriant grass. To
celebrate the occasion of Luxem-
bourg's International Fair, a stamp
was issued. The design is the
winged letter "L" flying over a
map of Europe, its shadow touch-
ing the Grand Duchy's outlines. A
Luxembourg artist Lex Weyer de-
signed it.

An important part of any people
is their ability to relax. The
Luxembourg, a keen sportsman,
likes football games, bicycle races
and is an avid follower of the Tour
de France and Olympic Games. In
fact he was well represented in the
latter by the great runner Josy
Barthel. To commemorate sports
in general and the Olympic Games
of Helsinki and the World Cycle
Race Championship of 1952 in par-
ticular, Luxembourg issued a set
of stamps picturing a hurdle race,
soccer, boxing, water-polo, cycling
and fencing. This set was designed
by another Luxembourg artist,
Jean Jacoby, and his son. One
single stamp was issued in 1954 to
honor the World Fencing Champion-
ship.

In 1951 a set of three special ad-
hesives came into circulation is-
sued by Luxembourg's Postal Ad-
ministration in favor of the propa-
gation of the United Europe idea.
The first stamp is dedicated to
economy and social progress, pic-
turing factories, dwellings and in
the foreground a farmer laboring
in his field. The second stamp pic-
tures man's rights to liberty

through a United Europe and it
shows a group of four persons of
different ages; on the left side is
a map of Europe and on the right
side the charter of liberty.

The third stamp deals with peace
through a United Europe and shows
a scale attached to the globe even-
ly balancing a block of granite on
each side with the inscriptions
"United Europe" and "Peace."
Luxembourg is a partner of the
Benelux, standing for the customs
union formed in 1948 between Bel-
gium, the Netherlands and Luxem-
bourg. The Grand Duchy has also
issued a set honoring the United
Nations.

Radio Luxembourg, one of the
biggest air stations of the world, in
fact the most powerful in Europe,
is represented on a stamp. This
strong voice of the air plus the last
part of Benelux, "lux", which means
"international unit of illumination"
—combined, these two perhaps
sound preposterous in speaking of
the third smallest country of Euro-
pe. Yet it is a reality just as the
historic past and fascinating pre-
sent pictured on Luxembourg's
stamps are a reality.



Kenneth M. Gierhart
P. O. Box 302
Baltimore Ohio

CORRECTION

The reporting of the 7c Bureau
from Richmond, Va. as a Liberty
was a bit previous. It was a Presi-
dential. Just one of those blank
moments I get far too often. Thanks
to Gordon L. Wall of Albuquerque,
N. M. for calling this one to my
attention.

BULLETIN BOARD

The Nebraska Precancel bulletin of
the Nebraska Precancel Society
mailed from Hamlet, Nebr. with
1c Liberties (U-122 type). The news
reports that there are 401 towns
and 606 types from Nebraska. Also
that Minnesota has 619 towns. The
Iowa count is 775 Towns and 1183
types.

The BUCKEYE bulletin of the
Central Ohio Precancel Club was
mailed with a new type from
Salem, Ohio (U-120n). Addresses
of these clubs furnished for return
postage (no precancels).

VAN WERT ENVELOPE.

A 1c (new issue envelope) from
Van Wert, Ohio has been used for
some time, I have been told, by
the American Legion of that city.
The legend is not the "non profit
organization" but rather under
"39 c. f. r. 34.65(c)" class.

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Luxembourg's Special Postal Markings Of 1955

April 16—Cancellation *Vive Le Prince* used to celebrate the birth of Prince Henri. Regular postmark with boxed legend at left.

April 18—Inaugural Flight, Luxembourg-Stuttgart. Circular cancellation with a Sabena airplane in the center, and second decorative cancellation which was applied at destination.

April 24—Lycee de Jeunes Filles, Esch-sur-Alzette. Circular cancellation. Celebrates inauguration of a new school at Esch.

May 14—Official inauguration of *Tele-Luxembourg*. Rectangular cancel in form of a television set.

May 15-22—*Semaine de la Resistance* (Resistance Week). Sword piercing a snake (the Nazis) in a narrow rectangle.

May 22—1st Flight, Luxembourg-Reykjavik-New York. Circular cancellation including airplane, above which are the words "Icelandic Airlines Loffleider."

June 18—50th anniversary of Rotary International and 25th anniversary of the Luxembourg Rotary Club. Circular mark with Rotary wheel surrounding a view of one of the Luxembourg-City bridges.

July 9-24—International Fair, Luxembourg City. Cancellation used at a temporary post office set up in the new Fair Hall in Limbertsberg. Circular cancel decorated with a winged helmet.

Sept. 4-6—65th anniversary of the *Union des Timbrophiles Luxembourgeois* (U.T.L.). Circular cachet decorated with a crown, two oak leaves, and dates 1890-1955.

For Rotarians, a nice souvenir is the small, card-size Brochure of one sheet folded to make a leaflet, with the Rotary wheel and text on the cover and on the inside a stamp (a Mondorflies-Bains flower) cacheted by the special Luxembourg-City cancellation mentioned above, dated June 18, 1955. The souvenir is limited and numbered and was issued by Raymond Thill, Rumelange.

PLATE BLOCK THOUGHTS and COMMENTS

M. X. WEISS
2806 W. Eastwood Ave.,
Chicago 25, Ill.

LIBERTY SERIES IN REVIEW

I feel certain that most plate block collectors and dealers share the good judgment of the Post Office Department in having distributed this new general issue series over an extended period. Official bulletins released early this year have indicated that the last six stamps of the complete series of 18 will be released in 1956.

Six of these eighteen came out in 1954. They were the 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c and 8c. An additional six came out in 1955. They were the 1/2c, 6c, 30c, 40c, 50c and \$1.00. In each instance they did not follow the numerical orders as listed here. The remaining six will be the 1 1/2c, 7c, 9c, 10c, 20c and 55c.

I thought it might be a good idea to give you, annually, the total number of plates for each of these regular issues so that you can compare them with the totals of the previous year. This will give most collectors a clearer picture of how many new plate numbers are printed and used each year for this regular series. It may also help collectors determine the cost of maintaining the regular issues over and above the commemoratives, if they too are collected as is the case in nearly every instance.

Normally the thought of collecting the regular issues in plate blocks is sometimes alarming. Two principal factors go into this state of mind. With the Liberty series it may appear that the face value and/or the premium necessary to buy them is costly. This, I would say, may be due to the abbreviation of this regular series from the former 32 stamps to the new current 18 varieties. The second factor which is probably the more difficult one, is being able to add to the collection the subsequent plate numbers following the original printing of the first two plates.

Since the Philatelic Agency in Washington, D. C., has not attempted, in the past, to keep stock of the regular issues; in all numbers and positions, it may therefore be more or less a "catch as catch can" proposition in being up to date with additional printings of all denominations. That's where the thrill of maintaining a collection comes in, although I am sure an easier solution to maintaining the Liberty series would be welcome.

It would also follow that there would be many more collectors pursuing the regular series if all additional printed plate numbers could be located and purchased with less headaché.

In 1954 the 1c Washington came out, which, to date, has only seen the use of four plate numbers. They were:

25030 25031 25032 25033

In the same year, the 2c Jefferson came out, and to date at least 22 plates have been printed and are in the hands of many collectors. They are:

25046 25047 25050 25051

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25056	25057	25061	25062
25079	25080	25129	25130
25131	25132	25137	25138
25143	25144	25149	25150
25203	25204		

(A more detailed listing of these plate numbers will appear in the next plate number report.)

On the 3c Liberty, also a 1954 issue, at least 50 plate numbers have been printed and have been in circulation. Just about all positions have been reported. (A more complete picture of the 3c Liberty will be included in the next plate number report.)

The 4c Lincoln has seen four plate numbers. They are:

25075 25076 25081 25082

The 5c Monroe has also seen four plate numbers. They are:

25087 25088 25090 25091

The 8c Liberty, in bi-color, is the sixth stamp, actually the first one issued. It was originally printed in two processes, in the flat plate printing and the rotary. In the flat plate there were nine plate numbers, printed in blue color. These were:

24912 24913 24914 24915
24926 24929 24930 24932
24933

Together with these were eight plate numbers printed in the red color. They were:

24916 24917 24918 24919
24935 24936 24937 24939

In the Rotary printing there were five plate numbers printed in blue. They were:

24923 24924 24928 24930
24942

Two numbers were printed in red, together with those above, in the Rotary printing. They were:—24927; 24938.

In various combinations of the plate numbers, there was a total of 62 of the flat plate and rotary combined. Each combination was found in all four positions, making a total of 248 different plate blocks, combinations, and positions to the 8c Liberty.

In February 1955 one more red plate number went to press. It was 24920. Not much of this has been seen. Several reports came in for this number, with blue plates 24913 and 24915. We hope more of these will show up later. This 8c stamp has been, by far, the most difficult of all to complete.

The foregoing represents the first six stamps of this series released in 1954. In 1955 all the six new denominations had the minimum printing of two plates each. They were as follows:

1/2c Benjamin Franklin, with plate numbers 25263 and 25264.
6c Teddy Roosevelt, with 25191 and 25192.

30c Robert E. Lee, with 25251 and 25252.

40c John Marshall, with 25249 and 25250.

50c Susan B. Anthony, with 25232 and 25233.

\$1 Patrick Henry, with 25257 and 25258.

This rounded out the six values of the Liberty series in 1955, with two-thirds of the entire series released to date.

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AUSTRIA. The 200th anniversary of the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was honored with the issuance of a 2.40S blue stamp on January 18. The design shows a portrait of Mozart done when he was 26 years old.

ARGENTINA. On December 31 a 3 peso stamp was issued for the "Brotherhood of the Armed Forces". The design shows the National Arms superimposed on the wings of the Air Force which in turn is superimposed on the anchor of the Navy.

CHINA (Communist). A set of eighteen stamps has been proposed for the Five Year Plan. On October 2 nine of these values were released. Each stamp is 8f face value and each stamp has a design dealing with the progress of the Plan.

CUBA. Two stamps, as usual, was issued for Christmas 1955. On the 2c green the inscription "Navidad 1955-56" is in red and on the 4c red stamp it is in green.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. "Constructions of Socialism" is the theme of a set of four stamps issued on December 15. The values and designs are: 20h green (Railway Viaduct); 30h brown (Railway Line and Tunnel); 1.60Kcs. red (Miners' Center).

ICELAND. To commemorate the 900th anniversary of the consecration of the first Icelandic bishop, Isleifur Gizurason, three stamps were issued on January 23. The 75 aur plus 25 aur shows St. Thorlacus, the sixth bishop of Skalholt, 1178-93. The 1.25 Kr. plus 75 aur shows the Cathedral at Skalholt built in the 15th Century. The 1.75 Kr. plus 1.25 Kr. shows Jon Porgeirsson Vidalin, bishop of Skalholt, 1698-1720.

LEBANON. Two airmail stamps and a souvenir sheet are to be issued shortly to commemorate the United Nations. The values are: 35p and 65p. The souvenir sheet will have both the stamps but will sell for 1.25pi.

MOZAMBIQUE. Two stamps were issued on December 26 to commemorate the centenary of the birth of the Mousinho de Albuquerque. The 1E black and tan shows his portrait; the 2.50E blue and olive shows an equestrian statue of the Mousinho.

PORTUGUESE INDIA. A six-value set was issued on December 26 to commemorate the 450th anniversary of the founding of the State of India. The stamps are all multi-colored and each shows a different map of a fortress. The values are: 2t—Fortress of Bacaim 2 1/2t—Mombain; 3 1/2t—Damao; 5t—Diu; 12t—Cochim; 1 rupia—Goa.

The founding of the State of India was the occasion for the issuance of a six-value multi-colored set of stamps on December 19. The values and designs are: 6 reis—Manuel Antonio de Sousa; 1 1/2 tangas—Felipe Nery Xavier; 4t—Agostinho Vincente Lourenco; 8t—Padre Jose Vaz; 9t—Manuel Godinho de Heredia; and 2 rupias—Antonio Caetano Pacheco.

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PHILATELIC RAILROADERS will go for three of the four stamps Czechoslovakia issued December 15 picturing Construction made under the socialist regime. All designs were by Frantisek Hudecek. The 20 halers green has a railway viaduct; 30h brown, train on a viaduct; 60h blue, train entering railway tunnel; 1.60 Crowns red, miners' center. Engraving of the designs was by Jan Mracek, Ladislav Jirka, Jindra Schmidt and Bedrich Housa respectively.

Slick Talker Clips Dealer

The Washington Post and Times Herald recently carried a news item which should prove as a warning to dealers and collectors.

A dapper "con" man who posed as a "secretary" to Sen. Alben W. Barkley (D-Ky.) and vanished with a \$500 collection of rare stamps entrusted to him by a Washington stamp dealer became the object of a police and FBI search.

Police said the hoax was discovered when the victim of the deception identified a picture of an ex-convict with a three-page record for similar offenses as the man who duped him.

Max Strassman, who with his wife, Doris, operates the Knickerbocker Stamp Co., 736 12th St. N.W., Washington, D. C. said he loaned the stamps to the smooth-talking stranger after the latter said he wanted to "show them to my wife."

Strassman's trust in the man was built up over a period of 10 days, which began with Strassman buying \$235 worth of old coins from the suspect, Det. Sgt. Schuyler Cox reported.

Strassman said the man represented himself as Barkley's secretary and flashed several notes on stationery from Capitol Hill offices by way of reassurance.

Police said a check with Barkley's office showed that the man was not known there. In a lookout, police warned the suspect, who preys upon collectors of old coins and stamps, may try to pass himself off with other Capitol Hill connections with articles stolen from Hill offices.

Police said the suspect is white, 33 years old, well dressed, 5 feet 5 inches tall and weighs about 145 pounds. Cox said he has brown hair and often wears a "pork pie hat."



AUCTIONS

Jan. 30—Matthew Bennett, 2995 Cortland Detroit 6, Mich. United States, British Cois., General, White, incl. blocks.

Jan. 30-Feb. 1—H. R. Harmer, Inc., 6 W. 48th St., New York 36, N. Y. Hackett collection of U. S. Proofs, Essays.

Jan. 31—S. Pinchot, 505 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y. United States, inc. airmails, France and Colonies.

Jan. 31—S. Serebrakian, 15 Park Row, New York 38, N. Y. U. S., Britain & Cois., Airs, France & Cois., General.

Feb. 1—Rev. E. C. Reeve, Clearfield, Pa. United States mint and used. From the 1847's to Columbus.

Feb. 2—H. Lazarus, 29 Wadsworth Ave., New York 33, N. Y. 33, N. Y. World Postal History material; Poland rare items.

Feb. 4—Louis L. Williams, 402 S. Mercer Ave., Bloomington, Ill. United States Plate Blocks.

Feb. 6-9—H. R. Harmer, Inc., 6 W. 48th St., New York 36, N. Y. "Hackett Collection" of U. S. Proofs, Essays.

Feb. 10—J. E. Rasdale, 505 E. Walker, St. Johns, Mich. United States and General Foreign, mint and used.

Feb. 14—Alex S. Juliard, Narberth, Pa. United States, Europe and Possessions classic issues.

Feb. 15—Alcurel & Meyer, P.O. Box 1013, Coral Gables, Fla. DeLuxe Germany and "States Incl. stationery."

Feb. 15—Hugh Watchorn, 1425 Williston Rd., Burlington, Vt. European Nations and Colonies, General.

Feb. 17—Michael M. Karen, 1467 Greenport Rd., Far Rockaway, N. Y. United States, Philatelic Literature.

Feb. 18—Meridian Stamp Co., 2351 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, Ind. U. S., Brit. Emp., General, Collections.

Feb. 20-24—H. R. Harmer, Inc., 6 W. 48th St., New York 36, N. Y. United States, Airmail, General Foreign.

Feb. 25—Earl P. Apfelbaum, 1416 S. Penn Sq., Philadelphia 2, Pa. United States and British North America.

Feb. 27—H. B. Zeitlin, 1796 Riverside Dr., New York 34, N. Y. Scandinavia, Latin America, General, Stationery.

Feb. 29—F. R. Ferryman, 505 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y. United States, General Foreign, Specialties.

March 1—F. R. Ferryman, 505 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y. United States, General Foreign, Specialties.

March 5-7—H. R. Harmer, Inc., 6 W. 48th St., New York 36, N. Y. "Caspary Collection" Confederate P.M. Provisionals.

SPECIAL EDITIONS

Various dealers will want to time some of their advertising to appear in conjunction with the special editions of Linn's Weekly Stamp News sponsored by different specialist groups. These editions are always the last one of each month and contain a splendid amount of information about the particular country or specialty.

The next four editions of a special nature are as follows: —

February 27—Society of Israel Philatelists.

March 27—National Highway Post Office Society.

April 24—PERFINS (Perforated Initials on Stamps Society).

May 29—Roman States Society.

Further inquiries can be directed to this paper by interested dealers.

Clubs or societies agreeable to sponsoring a special edition can get the details on request.

Ryukyu Islands Note Arbor Week

Arbor Week, February 18 to 25, is going to be recognized by the Ryukyu Islands with a 4 yen green commemorative design of which has a stylized representation of trees in a forest. While no first day of issue was given, it is presumed that it will be on February 18 or a few days before.



Printing is by photogravure in sheets of 50 subjects, 5 x 10, in a quantity of 200,000.

First day covers will be provided. It will take two of the stamps for sea-mail delivery to any country. Airmail to the North American continent takes 35 yen, or nine stamps. If registration is desired this fee is 20 yen over and above the postage.

The minimum order acceptable, and it can include first day covers and mint stamps, is \$1. One dollar is equivalent to 120 yen. Make remittances payable to Philatelic Adviser, Public Services Dept., USCAR, APO 331, San Francisco, Calif. Use a postal money order.

Collectors must supply their own addressed envelopes for first day covers. These must arrive by February 17 so airmail is mandatory. Airmail directed to the Philatelic Adviser address is 6c per ounce.

HAUNTED CASTLES (Continued from page 1)

the issuing of semi-postals, there has seldom been more than one set a year and the country's record compared with that of most of its neighbors is excellent. All issues have been available for a definite and well advertised period.

A little research into the lives of the ancient rulers shown upon some of them makes interesting reading. Luxembourg has turned to the printing houses of many countries for its stamps. Early issues were produced locally and in Germany. The well-known firm of J. Enschede in Zonen of the Netherlands was the favored supplier of the issues from 1880 to 1926, in which year the American Bank Note Company furnished the Charlotte issue in use until the war; this same firm engraved the new Charlotte issue after the Liberation in 1944.

Enschede continued to supply special issues, both engraved and in photogravure, while the famous Swiss firm of Courvoisier provided numerous series in photogravure. Several beautiful postwar engrav-

ings are the work of the French Government printing plant.

A beautiful collection of the postal cards from 1870 can be assembled. Those of later years with scenes are particularly attractive, while the 1938 letter cards are among the prettiest pieces of postal stationery ever issued.

The officials form a group which may be omitted completely if one feels dismayed at the number of overprints, but they will repay one who really likes to study overprints. The writer tries to obtain them in used condition only and it is a real search.

The Scott Catalogue reference to counterfeits may discourage some potential Luxembourg collectors. However, although they exist along with counterfeits of most other nations, they are not nearly so common as Scott indicates and they offer a nice sideline in themselves. Excellent descriptions and illustrations are easily obtainable and the new collector should study them before buying early issues from other than a reliable dealer.

This article has attempted to outline some of the possibilities of a Luxembourg collection in the hope of helping those looking for desirable new fields to conquer. The Luxembourg Philatelic Study club offers several services, such as a neatly mimeographed journal, frequent auctions and expertising of doubtful stamps.

Information and a copy of the journal may be obtained by sending 25c to the secretary, Warren W.

U. S. A. MIXTURES.

Mission Mixtures, all United States, unpacked as received from various missions 5 lbs. \$2.50 10 pounds \$4.50 20 lbs. \$8.50. Postage extra on all orders. No approvals. Our catalog enclosed. FREE

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American Stamp Dealers' Association Inc.

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NEW YORK 38, N. Y.

A. S. D. A. SHOW SOUVENIR



This attractive Gold and Black souvenir which was prepared by Linn's for the 1955 ASDA show is being offered for a limited time only. It was given away at the show to everyone that purchased a new subscription to Linn's. They were also sold for 50c each to all that wished a souvenir of the show.

The sheets, which can be framed or mounted in your album, is unpunched on heavy Bristol stock. There is a first day cover, unaddressed, enclosed also, with the 6c Roosevelt Stamp properly cancelled. It makes a fitting souvenir for your Roosevelt collection.

For a limited time, as long as supply lasts, we offer a free, postpaid copy to anyone sending us a NEW subscriber with full remittance of \$1.00; or you may purchase them at 50c each postpaid. Rush your orders now. The offer may be withdrawn at any time due to low supplies.

Linns' Weekly Stamp News.

P. O. BOX 29, SIDNEY, OHIO

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NATIONWIDE ADVANCED EXCHANGE, full Scott, dime brings everything needed to start. Chris Sharon, Garrison, N. Y. (12)

SEND 300 TO 1,000,000 UNITED STATES or foreign. Please use judgment and include worthwhile items. I will send \$5 catalogue my fine foreign in exchange. Small worthless lots will be returned intact. Elmer Grafe, 4550 N. Kasson Ave., Chicago 30, Ill. (21)

EXCHANGE - SEND 10 PER 10 STAMPS and stamped self-addressed envelope. Arsee Trading Service, P. O. Box 613, Latham, New York (23)

\$5.00 CATALOGUE VALUE BRITISH Colonies, airmails, semi-postals, commemoratives, foreign, no junk, catalogue \$5 to \$50, for 200 used large U. S. Commemoratives. Lloyd H. Rockefeller, Red Hook, N. Y. (12)

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FOR EACH 100 LARGE U. S. COMMEMORATIVES will give \$3.50 Cat. value foreign \$5 each. Haverkamp, 1401 Nashville, New Orleans, La. (21)

AUSTRALIAN COMMEMS AND REGULARS in exchange for United States, British, North and South America, B.W.I., North Africa Queen Elizabeth Series. In bulk lots or singles - have over a million to swap. Mr. R. C. Detlefsen, 72 Marlow St., Wembley, Western Australia. (12)

BARTER BRITISH EXCLUSIVELY. Inquire, Crown Exchange, 142 Willowood, Wantagh, N. Y. (23)

CYPRUS, EGYPT, GREECE, IRAQ, ISRAEL, Palestine given for triangles. Large, attractive stamps U. S. A. Mint preferred. Mich. Hatjilidimitriou, Famagusta, Cyprus. (12)

EXCHANGE FOREIGN: SEND 100 DIFFERENT, dime get same quality. Atlantic, Metedeconk, New Jersey. (26)

100 DIFFERENT - 10c, 50c DIFFERENT - 25c. Better selection guaranteed. Gage, 909 Division, Toledo 2, Ohio. (26)

EXCHANGE STAMPS - BASIS SCOTT'S Stamp for stamp or pack of stamps for details. Schaffhauser, 2930 W. Murdoch, Wichita, Kansas. (21)

RECEIVE 110 LARGE MEXICO FOR 100 mixed large commems. Chapman, Apartado 1787, Mexico City. (21)

SEND 100 DIFFERENT FOREIGN AND dime or 25c and quarter. Receive equal quality, all different. Pomcrantz, 4721 Lafayette, Merchantsville, N. J. (21)

BETTER BRITISH COLONIALS, CANADA, Newfoundland for mint plain blocks of four of Israel and U. S. A. since 1948, basis Scott. Simard, 217 Champlain, Garneau, Que., Canada. (23)

GET 50% OF CATALOG FOR DUPLICATES, priced \$5 up to \$100 in catalogue. \$5 up, all different my choice. Identify by 1956 Scott. Minimum exchange \$2.00. 10 alike maximum. Swapmoore, Waverly, Illinois. (23)

SEND 200 TO 3000 LARGE U. S. COMMEMORATIVES. Receive \$2.00 to \$20.00 catalogue value respectively in all different British Colonials cataloging 10c up each. Copland, 1039 Baxter, Louisville 4, Kentucky. (29)

NEED USED LARGE U. S. COMMEMS BY 1,000 unsorted. Will give Mint Plate Block or Mint or Used Foreign High Value each. Louis Rosenthal, Box 722, Pottstown, Penna. (12)

EXCHANGE SEND 25 CENTS PER 100 stamps (no common) and stamped addressed envelope. Better quality returned. Guaranteed. Hogan, 4455 Broadway, New York 40, N. Y. (23)

DOLLAR HIGH BUYING POWER IN Europe, France and Colonies wanted. Scott basis plus 20% to 100% for you. Mint U. S. commems or cash accepted. Signoret, "La Malsonnette", Masargues (B-d-Rh) France. (25)

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SEND \$5.00 OR MORE 1956 SCOTT'S Catalog value at 4c each and up, not more than 3 of one kind, and receive same in value. R. G. Frogness, P. O. Box 329, Aurora, Illinois. (23)

SEND ME 200-300 STAMPS OF YOUR country and I send you the same amount of Germany. Fritz Neumann, Amoenpfad 27, Dortmund-Hoerde, Germany. (23)

EIGHT DIFF. FOREIGN FOR EACH USED American Commemorative Nos. 894, 904, 955, 966, 967, 968, 971, 972, 973, 976. A. J. Gagner, 217-249 County Road-E, St. Paul 15, Minnesota. (23)

ISRAEL - SEND ONE USED LARGE U. S. Commemorative for each one cent of catalog value - \$28, 29, 35, 46, 53, 63, 66, 70, 76, 87, 96, 97, 98, C2, C15. Or you may buy at one third catalog. Mason Belcher 338 W. 71st, Chicago 21, Illinois. (12)

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DESIRE TO TRADE U. S. MINT AND used large commemorative stamps with Foreign Stamp Collectors or Dealers on even Scott's Catalog basis. R. G. Frogness, P. O. Box 329, Aurora, Illinois. (23)

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25 Diff. U. S. F.D.C. Cachet \$2.00. 25 First Flights, P.A.M. and C.A.M., 2.00. Advertising Corp., Cards before 1950 \$2.00. 25 Foreign War Censored Covers \$2.00. 25 Old U. S. Covers \$2.00. 25 Schillay, Box 1641, Knickerbocker Station, New York City 2. (12)

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DUCK STAMP APPROVALS. REFERENCES. Edwin Meyer, Parnell, Iowa. (27)

SCARCE U. S. SLIGHTLY DEFECTIVE but nice appearing. Send list of your "needs" for bargains. Price \$1.00. Don Nelson, Jr., Warner Robins 5, Ga. (31)

UNITED STATES COMMEMORATIVE Price List Free James Cunningham, 101 Terrace, Hasbrouck Heights, N. J. (12)

\$2 & \$5 \$233/4 \$1.00 with 72-page price list. No approvals. Irwin Stamp Co., Box 11-07, Brooklyn 30, N. Y. (12)

400 COMMEMORATIVES OVER 35 VARIETIES including Army-Navy set \$1.00. 400 high-value stamps \$1.40 better for \$1.00. 100 different fine Airmails \$1.00. Satisfaction guaranteed. Maple Stamp Co., P. O. Box 45, Irvington, N. J. (12)

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MINT SETS FLAGS 80c; 1936 ARMY NAVY 49c; Roosevelt 14c; Famous Americans \$5.85. No approvals. Free 1956 Price List. Stanton, 1703 Avenue U, Brooklyn 30, New York. (12)

COMMEMORATIVES - 131 DIFFERENT for \$1. Many older stamps included. Your best dollar buy. G. H. Pritchard, 1306 Good Hope St., Cape Girardeau, Mo. (23)

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GET OUR PRICE LISTS, SINGLES, Blocks, Covers. They are different. Harrington's Stamp Shop, Deansboro, New York. (21)

U. S. COMMEMORATIVE COLLECTIONS Fine unused OG collections \$2 each 7 diff. stamps from 1932-1938 (c) 24 diff. stamps from 1932-1938 (c) 28 diff. stamps from 1937-1939 (c) 35 diff. stamps from 1940-1946 (c) 41 diff. stamps from 1947-1949 (c) 47 diff. stamps from 1950-1954 (c) All six collections only \$11.50. Ralph Rice, 16 Longlans Road, West Hartford 7, Connecticut. (31)

MINT COMM. SINGLES 922 TO DATE 1c over face-used commems 929 to date 1c each-First Day Block covers 926 to 1000 including C35 at face value. Please allow 10c for handling. Louis Rosenthal, Box 722, Pottstown, Penna. (12)

U. S. REVENUE STAMPED PAPER (entire checks 12 different \$1.00 rare value. William Vitale, Alhambra, California. (12)

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UNITED STATES, PRECANCELS ON APPROVAL. Reference. John Wina, Bolyar, Mo. (12)

FOR SALE U. S.

MINT SHEETS. PONY EXPRESS \$13. Pan American \$2.20, Idaho \$4.10, Wyoming \$2.20, Colorado \$4.20, Flags \$42.50. Send for free lists. Donald Kaufman, (Member ASDA), 15 Beverly St., Pittsfield, Mass. (12)

1000 LARGE SIZE COMMEMORATIVES mixed \$3.75; \$5.00 \$2.00. Famous Americans \$3.75; \$5.00 \$2.25. Used \$1.75. All fine. Hudson's, Box 4015, Fresno 4, Calif. (25)

PRICED TO SELL: P. D. COVERS, MINT Blocks, Plate Blocks, singles, foreign singles. G. Welland, 211 So. Fourth, Aurora, Ill. (12)

FR SALE - U. S. MINT. SAVE MONEY. New Low List Free sample of prices. Complete P. A. (35). Singles \$5.75. Blocks \$22.00. Hundreds of items First Day Covers. Plate Blocks Matched sets. Eldon B. Kirtland, APS, NPS, Chester, Conn. (12)

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MINT U. S. #707. 2c CARMINE 3c; 716 Lake Placid 4c; 737 Mothers Day 4c; 740-2 Park 10c; Send for our Special Price List. Schumacher Stamp Co., Box 32, Nyack, New York. (12)

WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL SET 13 values only 20c with U. S. approvals. Our selections are tailored for the beginner collector and range in price from 1c to 10c. Stamp Shop, 719 Pierce, Sioux City, Iowa. (12)

150 DIFF. COMMEMORATIVES \$1.00. 200 diff. \$1.50. 500 Precancels \$1.00. Becker, 10041 Dorothy, St. Louis, Mo. (26)

50 DIFFERENT MIXED U. S. OFF PAPER, 15c. Art Chamberlain, 821 Race, Scranton 9, Pa. (12)

SURPRISE PACKET OF OLDER U. S. mint commemoratives sold at face value 25c with first selection of mint U. S. approvals. Western, Box 16891, Salinas, Calif. (27)

DUCK STAMP APPROVALS. REFERENCES. Fred G. Bromann, Stickney, S.D. (25)

1,000 FINE MIXED U. S. STAMPS, 25c. Wright, 301 Mead, Hagerstown, Md. (12)

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FREE SET C34-6 USED U. S. AIRMAILS to approval applicants. North Andover, Mass. (26)

FREE FIRST DAY COVER OF UNITED Nations 3c International Telecommunication Union with requests for our 1956 United States Pricelist, 10c. Chales Solomons, P. O. Box 22-1, Cambria Heights, 116, New York. (12)

200 DIFFERENT COMMEMORATIVES \$1.00. Different condition. Detweiler, 2322 Brockmont Dr. NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico. (22)

1956 ILLUSTRATED CATALOG 20c (deductible). Gama, 116 Nassau, New York 38, N. Y. (12)

FINE UNITED STATES APPROVALS. Mint only, reasonable prices. R. S. Smith, 50 Logan St., Brooklyn 8, New York. (23)

MINT ERICSSON - EACH 75c; BLK. \$3.50. Selbe, Box 101, Moorhead, Minn. (29)

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SCARCE CLEAN USED BLOCKS - 640-600; \$50-600; 716-25c; 734-35c; 747-85c; 789-20c; 906-50c; 928-15c; 930-33-40c. no stamps in trade. Geo. Brenner, 25160 Van Dyke, Centerline, Mich. (22)

MINT SHEETS FAMOUS AMERICANS F-V 559-893 \$400.00. Mint blocks send for list. G. W. Howe, 2051 N. Sayre Ave., Chicago 35, Illinois. (12)

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COMPLETE SETS. MINT* (USED). FAMOUS Americans \$5.50* (\$1.65). Flags \$5c* (70c). Bicentennials \$2.50* (30c). Parks \$1.30* (85c). Army-Navy 50c* (25c). Erickson, 736 Cottage, St. Paul 17, Minn. (23)

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BEGINNERS PARADISE: PARTLY FILLED approval books, still containing 500 to 700 stamps only \$2.00 or 3 different \$5.00. Loren Fraser, 1093 "D" St., Springfield, Oregon. (12)

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Mo. (2)

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large size U. S. Commemoratives for
each precancel I keep. John G. Hirt,
Box 401, Pawhuska, Oklahoma. (2)

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off paper 30c per 100; on paper 25c per
100. E. J. Fraz, 915 43 Street, Brooklyn 1,
New York (2)

U. S. AND FOREIGN ACCUMULATIONS,
Send stamps. No lists. Fair prices.
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York. (2)

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New York. (2)

CONTACTS WITH MISSIONS FOR MIX-
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R.D.3, Waterloo, New York. (2)

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mails of world, used U. S. plate singles.
France and Colonies (no Africa). Send
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Cohen, 242 E. 25th St. New York 10, N.Y. (2)

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sheets 3% discount; sheets less blocks
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3% discount, 6c Airmail 6% discount.
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A superior deluxe mix from banking and import house sources such as BARCLAYS BANK IN LONDON, MIDLAND BANK, LTD., etc. About 1000 pieces of mostly middle and upper values from some of the toughest postal areas in the world such as Sarawak, Brunei, No. Borneo, Maldives, Kuwait, Cyprus, Fiji, Bahamas, Gold Coast, Nigeria etc. Plenty of odd denominations and scarcer values. Shilling values galore. (Supply limited. Orders filled in sequence received.) These lots catalog very high. A bargain at \$18.00.

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Describe Postmarks Of World War II

A specialized study which should be the delight of the collector of World War II postmarks and postal history is "Postal Markings of the Allied Forces in Great Britain, 1940-1946". This is the 11th volume of Billings series of handbooks on cancellations.

This 56-page reference work is published in the United States by Fritz Billig, 168-39 Highland Ave., Jamaica 32, N. Y. at \$2.50 postpaid. It was written by Norman Hill of Rotherham, England. In describing the basis of his efforts, Mr. Hill states, "When the Nazi hordes overran Europe in 1940, Great Britain became the refuge of thousands of fighting men from the mainland of Europe."

"Remustered and reorganized, fighting units again came into being, and with them were also organized postal services. In addition Britain's sons and daughters from overseas came to help the motherland in her hour of need, bringing with them, in some cases, their own field post ser-

vices. At a later date, the armed forces of the United States came to make a mighty base for operations against the enemy."

The postmarks and other mail markings of all these units have been recorded by Mr. Hill with descriptive reading and illustrations for most of them.

New Records In Second Caspary Sale

It appears, advises Bernard Harmer of H. R. Harmer, Inc., that the selling by auction of the Caspary Collections will bring a total of more than three million dollars when the final sale is made approximately two years from now.

Mr. Harmer based this opinion on the results of the first two sessions which were greater than their estimates prior to sale. In the first the Postmaster Provisionals were offered, while the second was devoted to Confederate material.

To date a total of \$521,500 has been spent by successful bidders. There were a number of four figure lots in both auctions.

Michel Overseas, Europe 1956 Catalogs

One of the foreign catalogs which has always enjoyed a great deal of popularity in this country is the Michel. Produced in Munich, Germany, and written in the German language, the coverage is quite complete.

For European nations there is a 1536-page book which gives Germany a specialized treatment, and the rest of the continent a good general one. Information includes first day dates when known, likewise the names of the designers and engravers and the usual other pertinent identification material.

A Michel "Overseas" Catalog for the nations not covered in the Europe has been released in a 1956 edition. The first volume lists the stamps of nations in the "A to K" alphabetical group of nations. Another volume in the making will take care of the "L to Z". The A to K has 828 pages and is as detailed in coverage as the European section. Both books are bound between

cloth covers, well illustrated and sell at \$4.75 each. The U. S. agent is Jacob Habib, 154 Nassau St., New York 38.

DOUBLE DEMAND

Did you know that Trieste A.M.G. stamps are rightly classified as UNITED NATIONS Topicals. This, in addition to their classification as issues under U. S. Administration. Reference: The Free Territory of Trieste was established by the Security Council of the United Nations on February 10, 1947. That the administration should be done by the U. S. and Great Britain.

TRIESTE A.M.G. KIT SPECIALISTS' LOT #1

(Designed especially for those who already own some Trieste stamps)

Contains:
1-Selected material of scarce wmk., gutter pairs and fiscals Plus one corner inscription block \$7.00
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3-TRIESTE CATALOG, looseleaf 622 pp. 12 \$1.00
4-Plastic Perf Guage, Measures 1/4 perfs on or off cover \$1.00
5-ARRICATORES, Philatelic arrows \$1.00
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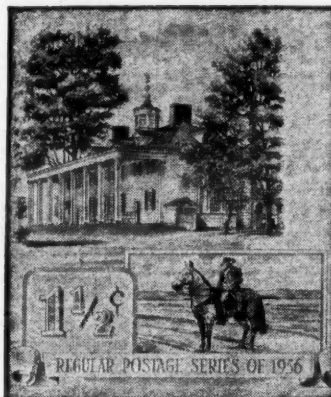
jos. bush 143 n. garrett chula vista, calif.

ARTMASTER COVERS FOR 1956 STAMPS

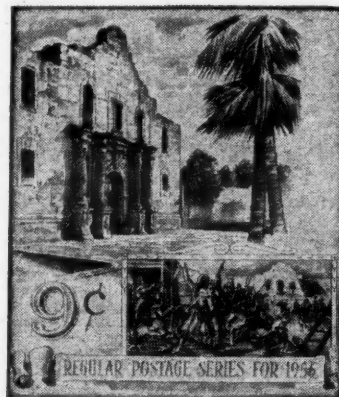
Start the new year with Artmaster Covers. Whether it's a commemorative, Famous American, United Nations or a Regular U. S. issue you can depend on Artmaster for an appropriate, beautifully illustrated, steel engraved cover. Artmaster Covers are hand illustrated and steel engraved on crisp, white, vellum finish, 100% rag content envelopes. Artmaster Covers are made to last a lifetime without fading or deteriorating.

COLORED U. N. COVERS

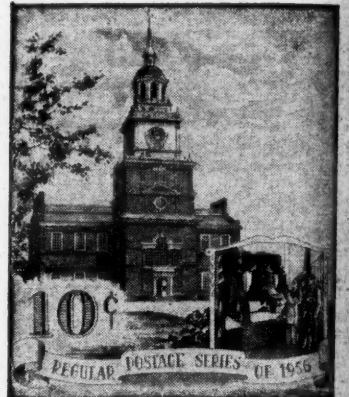
Artmaster Covers for the new 3c and 8c United Nations I. T. U. Stamps will be steel engraved in a color to match the stamp.



1 1/2c MT VERNON



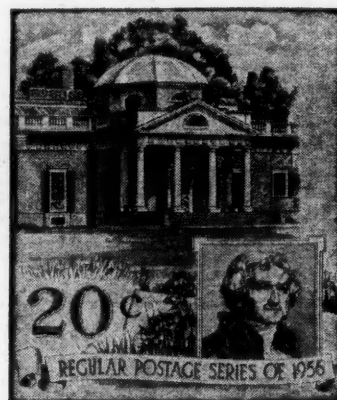
9c ALAMO



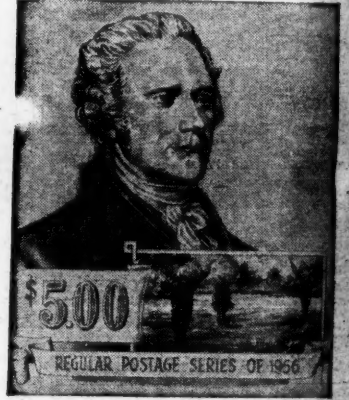
10c INDEPENDENCE HALL



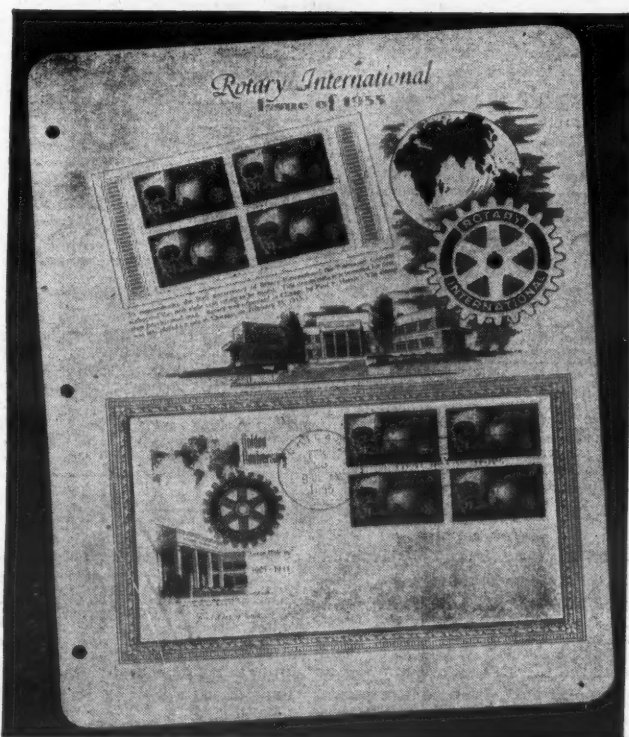
UNITED NATION I.T.U.



20c MONTICELLO



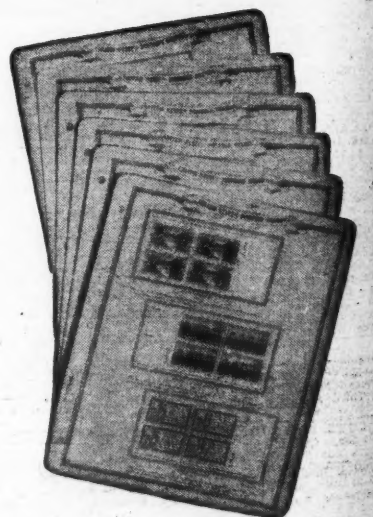
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Pictured here is one of Artmaster's Cover and Stamp Album Pages for 1955 U. S. issues. Each page is illustrated to match the stamp and information pertaining to each stamp is printed on the page. These pages are strong, durable and will fit all standard albums. Complete set of sixteen pages \$1.90. Add 20c postage for first set, 10c for each additional set.

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10c INDEPENDENCE HALL	...35c	...45c	...65c	...\$1.75
20c MONTICELLO	...45c	...55c	...\$1.10	...\$2.50
\$5.00 ALEXANDER HAMILTON	...\$5.75	...\$11.00	...\$22.00	...\$22.00
3c UNITED NATIONS I.T.U.	...20c	...25c	...30c	...60c
8c UNITED NATIONS I.T.U.	...30c	...40c	...60c	...60c

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